

# THE CITIZEN

Vol. 35, No. 15

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

Aug. 1, 2006

Stuttgart, Oberammergau and

## Wild about Stuttgart

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AMERICAN FOOTBALL IN DEGERLOCH  
YOUR SUMMER FEST GUIDE  
AND MORE!

Hugh C. McBride

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#### Tennis takes center court for local players

Four of Stuttgart's top players travel to Heidelberg for the IMA-E championship, where Eric Latson takes top honors in the men's open singles division.





# At retreat, time spent saluting flag is time spent honoring service members

Maj. Mike Stolt  
Commentary

**I**t was a hot Tuesday afternoon. I was leaving Bldg. 402 after updating my base vehicle sticker.

As I walked toward the double-glass doors leading to the parking lot, I encountered a small group of people standing just inside the door – two Airmen, a civilian employee and one captain. As I reached for the door, the captain said, “You don’t want to go out there right now.”

I looked out and saw traffic stopped and several people standing in the hot July sun, gazing westward, some saluting, some standing at attention and some with their hands laid on their chests.

No, I don’t really want to go out there right now. I looked at my watch – 4:30 p.m.

I stood with the group that now numbered five. No one spoke. One Airman made a call on her cell phone, the other shifted his gaze back and forth between his shoes and the wall. The captain sifted through a folder of papers. The civilian and I watched through the glass doors as a technical sergeant stood at attention, saluting ... a sweat ring growing on his back. It seemed to go on forever.

The base loudspeakers squeaked out the last recorded notes of the national anthem. The cars rolled forward, the technical sergeant lowered his salute. The civilian pushed our door open and walked out. The rest of us followed.

When the heat hit me, I felt fortunate that my timing had kept me inside during the long ceremony.

I thought about that day for weeks. Images of the episode flashed through my mind as if I’d witnessed a crime – the plate-sized sweat ring, the glow of the cell phone on the Airman’s cheek, the civilian’s hand resting on the door handle, the glare of the sun, the heat.

I recently read an article about the war on terror and learned

*If I had stepped outside to pay respect to the flag  
and to the four Soldiers who died that day,  
how long would it have taken?  
One minute and 28 seconds.*

that we average 2.35 Americans dead and 10 wounded every day in the area of responsibility.

That day leapt back into my thoughts. A few hours of research helped me identify the date – July 14, 2005.

- On July 14, 2005, 23-year-old Cpl. Chris Winchester and 22-year-old Cpl. Cliff Mounce were killed when their vehicle was targeted by an improvised explosive device in Baghdad.

- On that day, 21-year-old Pfc. Tim Hines Jr. died when an IED hit his Humvee.

- On that day, 34-year-old Staff Sgt. Tricia Jameson was killed by a secondary IED while she was treating a victim of the primary IED. She, Chris Winchester and Cliff Mounce all died in Trebil. We can assume she was treating Chris, Cliff or another in their group. She volunteered to go to Iraq and had been in-country three weeks.

- On that day, four American Soldiers died in Iraq and numerous others were wounded.

- On that day, four families were plunged into mourning.

- On that day, I flew one sortie, sifted through e-mail, updated my base vehicle sticker and hid from the heat behind a glass door.

Why does it matter that I avoided participating in retreat? Some may think it’s silly symbolism, that it’s not real. An

aircraft is real. A computer, a vehicle sticker – they’re real.

I believe that anything that you allow to move you, or that inspires those around you to search their hearts, is as real as the bomb that tore Chris Winchester’s body apart last summer. Anything that forces an entire base to stop and listen to their thoughts for a while is real. Anything that causes you to pause and acknowledge that American Soldiers may be under fire as you listen to the national anthem is real.

As we five stood inside that doorway, the Soldiers killed and wounded that day may have been bleeding, screaming and dying in the sand.

If my timing is ever again as perfect as it was that day, I’ll be prepared. I’ll be ready with, “Yes, I do want to go out there right now.” You may not come with me, but I’ll bet you think about it for weeks.

If I had stepped outside to pay respect to the flag and to the four Soldiers who died that day, how long would it have taken?

One minute and 28 seconds.

*Stolt is assigned to the 97th Flying Training Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. This commentary originally appeared online at [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil).*

## THE CITIZEN

Col. Kenneth G. Juergens  
U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander

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The Citizen is an offset press publication printed in 6,500 copies every two weeks.

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## Wounded Soldier’s ‘small steps’ set inspirational example

By Julie Cupernall  
Commentary

**W**alking has long been a part of our clichés, life lessons and important historical events.

When Neil Armstrong first walked on the moon, he uttered the immortal phrase, “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

We’ve all been told at one point or another to hold criticism until “we’ve walked in another person’s shoes.”

And when we’re faced with seemingly insurmountable tasks, we are encouraged to “take baby steps” toward reaching our goal.

Today a Soldier’s story about learning to walk – and run – again brings inspiration to listeners.

A year ago Staff Sgt. Christian Bagge lost his right leg at the knee and his left leg just above the ankle after two IEDs exploded near his Humvee in Iraq.

On June 27 he went running with President George W. Bush at the White House in Washington, D.C.

When asked what prompted him to start training his body to run with new and foreign feet, Bagge said with a shrug, “I started to train because I like to run. I’ve always been a runner.”

And there-in lies the root of Bagge’s true achievement.

Sure, it’s an awesome honor to run with the president. But it wasn’t dreams of hitting the pavement with the leader of the free world that first prompted Bagge to start running again.

His dream was simple. He just wanted back normalcy, his daily routine.

He started what he describes as “an extremely long journey to this point” because he “wanted to do everything he did before.”

Bagge’s journey forward was all about not letting his new path rob him of what he valued in the past.

Instead of settling for “I used to run,” when Bagge first met President Bush while stationed at Brooke Army Medical Center in January, he was able to say “I run.”

Bagge is truly an example of Army values.

Loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage were the values that put him on the front lines in the Global War on Terror in Iraq, and they are the values he shows still as he recovers from his wounds.

In the world we live in today, I need stories like Bagge’s to remind me that true strength of character has no material cost, but is of incalculable worth.

Having the strength to value your values is not only possible, but is even uplifting, in the harshest of situations.

And although I greatly admire the mental and physical strength it took to bring Bagge to the point where he can run with the President, I garner the greatest motivation from the fact that two bombs and a year’s worth of recovery did not shake his hold on his values.

Thank you, Staff Sgt. Bagge, for taking those first “baby steps,” toward reclaiming your life before your injuries, what started out as “small steps” truly led to “great leaps,” and when I think about “walking a mile in your shoes,” I am inspired.

*This commentary originally appeared online at the Army News Web site ([www.army.mil/arnews](http://www.army.mil/arnews)).*





**U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens receives a plaque of appreciation from Polizeidirektor Alfons Aigner July 24 on the Bundespolizei's Wildermuth Kaserne in Böblingen. The plaque was presented in recognition of USAG Stuttgart's support of Polizei personnel during the World Cup.**

## Polizei thank USAG Stuttgart for support during World Cup

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

**U**.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens accepted a plaque of appreciation from the German Bundespolizei in recognition of the garrison's support of Polizei personnel during the monthlong FIFA World Cup finals, which Germany hosted.

Juergens, who attended a July 24 ceremony on the Bundespolizei's Wildermuth Kaserne in Böblingen, said the garrison's support of the German police was in keeping with a tradition of cooperation between the two nations.

"We were very proud to be able to support the German Polizei during the World Cup," Juergens said. "It was another great opportunity for the U.S. and Germany to work together."

According to Dag Kregenow of the USAG Stuttgart Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, more than 700 Polizei personnel were housed on Kelley Barracks during the World Cup.

Kelley was also used as a staging area for more than 200 Polizei vehicles, and the installation's helipad was employed to ferry in additional special riot police forces after a June 24 disturbance among fans near a public viewing area on Stuttgart's Schlossplatz.

Polizeidirektor Alfons Aigner said the personnel who were housed on Kelley were responsible for aviation security and border patrol in the area – which meant that most were assigned to Stuttgart International Airport and the city's main train station.

Being able to house personnel and store equipment on Kelley Barracks, Aigner said, went a long way toward enabling the Polizei personnel in the Stuttgart area to meet this challenging mission.

"We were very glad that we found support on Kelley Barracks," Aigner said. Finding an appropriate staging area for so many personnel involved jumping over a number of logistical and bureaucratic hurdles, but Aigner said that once they began to work with Juergens, "He said 'O.K., we can do it.'"

For his part, the commander said he was proud of the garrison's association with – and support of – the Polizei.

"The World Cup was a great success, and one of the main reasons for that success was the great work and the professionalism of the German Polizei," he said.

*We were very proud to be able to support the Polizei. The World Cup was a great success, and one of the main reasons for that success was the great work and the professionalism of the German Polizei.*

**Col. Kenneth G. Juergens**  
U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart



**This logo was used to represent the Polizei's efforts during the FIFA World Cup (or, in German, Weltmeisterschaft) 2006.**

## News & Notes

### Kelley Community Day Aug. 25

The Kelley Community Day celebration is set for Aug. 25 on Cooper Field. Attendees can enjoy a range of attractions and entertainment options including horseshoes, a dunking booth, face-painting station, SNAP and DARE displays, food and drink and more.

For details see the Aug. 11 edition of the Stuttgart Community Post or contact your organization's Community Day ticket representative.

### Bone marrow donor drive

Naval Special Warfare Unit Two will host a bone marrow registration drive Aug. 3, 10 a.m. to noon, on Panzer Kaserne (building 2972, room 121).

Registration is a painless non-invasive procedure requiring a simple swab of the mouth. Donating can save the life of a person in need.

For more information call Sgt. Stefanie Robinson at 0160-518-5645.

### Vet Clinic changes hours

The Stuttgart Veterinary Clinic on Panzer Kaserne has new operating hours. The clinic is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 2 p.m., for over-the-counter sales. The clinic is closed Thursdays due to training.

Hours are subject to change, so please call ahead. For more information call 431-2681/civ. 07031-15-2681.

### Enlisted Dining In

This year's Stuttgart-area Enlisted Dining In is Aug. 30, 6 to 10 p.m., in the Swabian Special Events Center. The guest speaker is Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

For more information or to order tickets contact one of the following service members:

- Air Force – Senior Master Sgt. Zeigler (430-6461/civ. 0711-680-6461) or Master Sgt. Cabalar (430-4459/civ. 0711-680-4459)
- Army – Sgt. 1st Class Williams (430-8017/civ. 0711-680-8017)
- Marine Corps – Gunnery Sgt. Scoffield (431-2370/civ. 07031-15-2370)
- Navy – YNCS(SW/AW) Harrell (430-4170/civ. 0711-680-4170)

### Part-Day Preschool registration

Registration for the part-day preschool programs at Patch and Panzer Child Development Centers has begun. The program, which runs from Sept. 11 to June 1, is open to children ages 3 to 5 years old.

To register stop by the Child and Youth Services Central Registration Office on Patch Barracks 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or call 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

### CYS Fall Sports Sign ups

Child and Youth Services have begun accepting sign-ups for soccer and flag football. Children must be registered with CYS and have a sports physical valid through Nov. 19. Cost to participate is \$30.

For more information call Central Registration at 430-7480/civ. 0711-680-7480.

### Scout Day Camps

• Stuttgart's **Cub Scout** Day Camp will be Aug. 15 to 18, 3:30 to 8 p.m., in the Local Training Area near Panzer Kaserne. The cost is \$55 and the camp is open to boys and girls in the 1st- to 5th-grade levels. For details e-mail Anette Angyal at goldieangyal@hotmail.com or call 07156-17-6783.

• The community's **Girl Scouts of America** Day Camp will be Aug. 21 to 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the Local Training Area near Panzer Kaserne. The cost is \$40 for registered girl scouts and \$50 for non-registered girls.

For details e-mail shamia.glover@hotmail.com.

### Private orgs: Check your mailboxes

Private organizations that have mailboxes in the Patch Consolidated Mailroom must ensure that mail is picked up promptly. Organization that fail to pick up their mail for 30 days will have the mail returned to sender, and the box will be closed. For details call 430-4076/civ. 0711-680-4076.

### Leaving the military? Call us first!

Avoid separation anxiety. Call the Stuttgart Army Career Alumni Program at 431-2191/civ. 07031-15-2191 for your pre-separation briefing.



# Health Clinic gets new commander

## *Marple replaces Ruzicka as clinic's leader during July 13 ceremony in Washington Square*



Col. William Novakoski, commander of U.S. Army Medical Activity Heidelberg, passes the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic unit colors to Col. Richard Marple July 13 on Patch Barracks

Story & photos by  
Brandon Beach

Col. Richard Marple took command of the Stuttgart Army Health Clinic during a July 13 ceremony held in Washington Square on Patch Barracks.

Marple replaced Col. Diana Ruzicka, who has been assigned as deputy commander of health services at Evans Army Community Hospital in Fort Carson, Colo.

Marple comes to Stuttgart from Heidelberg, where he served for the last two years as the deputy commander of clinical services at the U.S. Army Medical Activity.

He earned his doctorate of medicine degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in 1982.

He is "one of the best of the best of MEDCOM leaders," said Col. William Novakoski, commander of U.S. Army MEDDAC Heidelberg.

"He is a proven leader with a distin-

guished record and superb credentials and experience," Novakoski said. "He has earned a reputation as a selfless, patient-focused medical professional and a first-rate officer."

**Col. Richard Marple**  
*Stuttgart Health Clinic*

Ruzicka, who has served at the Stuttgart Army Clinic since October 2005, said goodbye to the Soldiers standing in formation before her.

"You are an awesome staff," she said. "Take care of patients, take care of each other, improve what you do everyday and be ready."

Marple said he was "honored" to take command of the clinic and was looking forward to working with the staff and command team.

"It's an honor to take command of a unit with such a proven and distinguished history of service," he said.

In his speech, Marple recalled the words of his former hospital commander at West Point, spoken some 24 years ago but still at the cornerstone of Marple's health care ethic.

"That philosophy simply stated is first our patients, then our peers and finally ourselves," he said. "Only when all three of these are in correct balance are we at our best."

"Stuttgart Soldiers, your performance has been outstanding, and I look forward to working with you," he concluded.

## HEALTH CARE CORNER

### Sports/CDC/School Physicals at the U.S. Army Health Clinic on Stuttgart's Patch Barracks August 8 (8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) & August 30 (8:30 a.m. to noon)

Call 430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610 or visit the clinic's central appointment desk.

#### U.S. Army Health Clinic Stuttgart

##### Hours of Operation

Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

##### Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.  
Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m.

##### Pharmacy

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

##### Immunizations

Walk-in basis  
Closed noon to 1 p.m.

##### Well Baby Care

Every Tuesday

##### Laboratory

M, T, W, F: 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursdays: 1 to 4 p.m.

##### Physical Exams

Active-duty only (by appt.)  
430-6817/civ. 0711-680-6817

##### Well Woman Care

Every Wednesday

##### Appointments

430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610 or 430-8611/civ. 0711-680-8611  
Tricare beneficiaries can also make appointments online  
Visit [www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com)

#### Stuttgart Dental Clinic

##### Hours of Operation

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. & 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

##### Active-Duty Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

##### All Others Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

##### Appointments

430-8626/civ. 0711-680-8626

#### Garmisch Dental Clinic

##### Hours of Operation

Mon., Wed & Fri: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Tue: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. / Thurs: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

##### Military Sick Call

Mon. to Fri.: 7:30 to 8 a.m.

##### Appointments

440-3414/civ. 08821-750-3414

##### Note

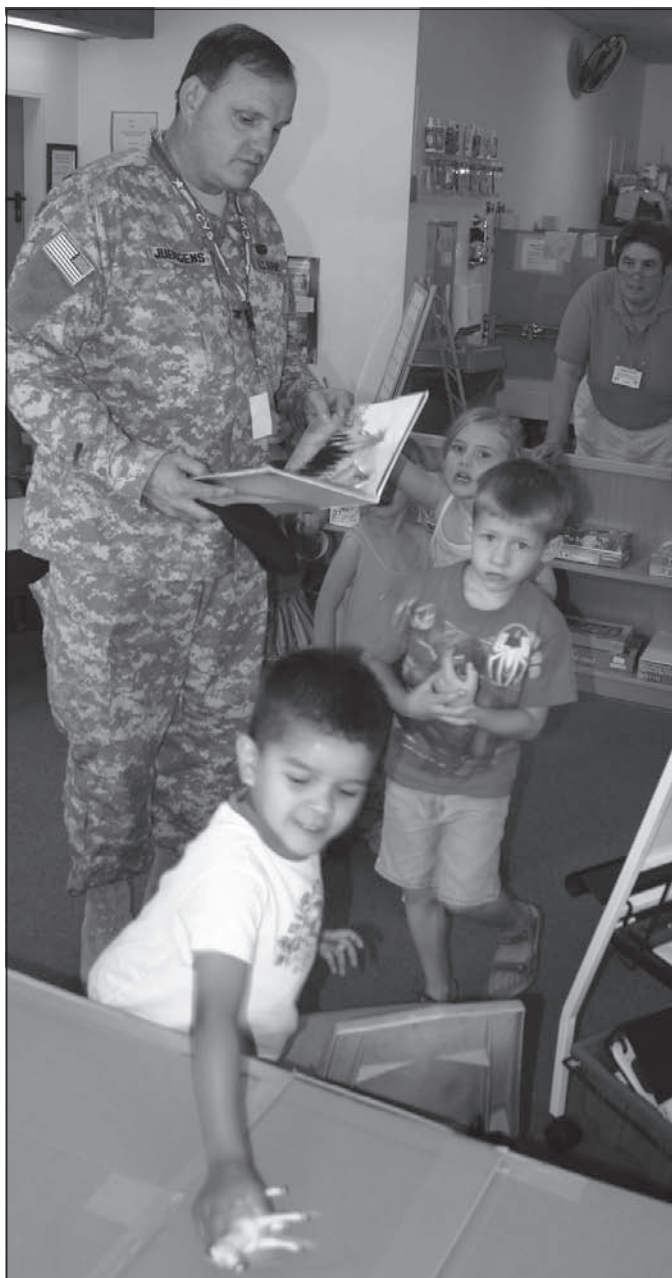
Dental services are extremely limited for patients other than active-duty service members and their families.

In case of an after-hours emergency call the MP desk to access the on-call patient liaison:  
Stuttgart – 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262 / Garmisch 440-3827/civ. 08821-750-3827



# Garrison commander tours Garmisch

## *Visit emphasizes command focus on community*



**U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch  
Public Affairs Release**

In the eyes of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, out of sight most definitely does not mean out of mind.

Though his command is headquartered more than 250 kilometers from the Bavarian Alps, Juergens (whose area of responsibility includes both Stuttgart and Garmisch) wants to be sure that the service members and civilians who work on Artillery Kaserne and Sheridan Kaserne know that they are an integral part of the U.S. military community in southeastern Germany.

Delivering this message in person was one of the primary missions for the commander and his wife, Gaby, during a weeklong visit to the community July 10 to 14.

"This command is unique in Europe [because of the distance between installations]," Juergens said. "But Garmisch is very important, and serving the community members here is one of the top priorities of my command."

Juergens, who has established an office on Artillery Kaserne and who intends to be making regular trips to the area, spent most of his recent visit getting an "on-the-ground perspective" from those who live and work there every day.

In addition to meeting with garrison employees, the commander also paid visits to Garmisch-Partenkirchen Mayor Thomas Schmid, George C. Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose, and Armed Forces Recreation Centers Europe General Manager Richard LeBrun.

A trip down the road to Oberammer-



**Garmisch's Child Development Center (left) and Auto Crafts facility (above) were two of the many stops made by USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens and his wife, Gaby, during their July 10 to 14 tour of Garmisch.**

gau also afforded him the opportunity to meet with Col. James Tebak, who recently took command of The NATO School.

"I want to be sure that we have excellent communication with our tenant units and our German hosts," Juergens said. "After meeting with Mayor Schmid, I've now had the opportunity to sit down with the mayor of every town where U.S. forces are stationed in our AOR."

But VIPs weren't the only people on the schedule during the July 10 to 14 visit. For example, on one day the Juergenses visited the School Age Services, the Teen Center and the Child Development Center, where they took turns reading the story "Monster Mama" to a group of preschoolers.

They also visited the community li-

brary, where the commander presented coins to all three of the librarians.

"This is an award-winning library," Col. Juergens noted during his discussion with the library staff. "Every time I come here it's always super, and when I talk to people about your community, they always cite the library. I can tell your heart is in this."

Throughout his visit, Juergens reiterated that Garmisch has a high visibility among the members of his command group.

"This is an important community," he said. "I intend to be making regular visits here, and I want the people who live and work here to know that they are a priority. We met with a lot of community members here during our visit, and I appreciate their insights and their hard work."

## *Siemers honored for superior service*

By Hugh C. McBride

From Bremerhaven, Germany, to Saigon, Vietnam. From aboard a submarine as a Naval officer to behind a desk as an Army civilian. From leading a logistics directorate in Stuttgart to serving as acting garrison manager in Garmisch.

Though Uwe Siemers's career has been one of changes and contrasts, one constant shines through: excellence.

Siemers, the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Director of Logistics who is currently serving as acting garrison manager for USAG Garmisch, added to a decades-long list of awards and honors when he received a Meritorious Civilian Service Award during a ceremony on Kelley Barracks.

"Mr. Siemers has been the focal point and leader of the efforts to transform a good organization and community into a great one," said USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, who nominated Siemers for the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. "He has been decisively engaged in an organizational redesign that will posture better support in the future."

The award, Juergens said, honored Siemers's efforts toward "building coalitions, improving communications, obtaining quality results [and] ensuring superb customer support."

Capt. Victoria Peters, the Director of Emergency Services



**Siemers**

**“Mr. Siemers has been the focal point and leader of the efforts to transform a good organization and community into a great one.”**

**Col. Kenneth G. Juergens  
U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart**

in Garmisch, said Siemers has demonstrated those traits in Garmisch.

"Mr. Siemers is very supportive to the military community here in Garmisch," Peters said. "He puts his heart out to the Soldiers here, ensuring that we have superior support to complete our unique mission."

In a letter written in support of Siemers's nomination for the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, Installation Management Agency Europe Region Director Russell Hall wrote that Siemers has "served the United States Army Garrison Stuttgart and the Installation Management Agency superbly ... His dedication to the U.S. Army is unparalleled."

A native of Bremerhaven (a port city in northwest Germany, located on the eastern bank of the mouth of the Weser River), Siemers looked to the water for his first career, joining the U.S. Navy in 1956. His 32 years on active

duty included two years with the Naval Advisory Group in Saigon; a stint aboard the USS Tecumseh (which was based out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii), and assignments in both London, England, and New London, Connecticut.

Siemers spent his final eight years in uniform in the Stuttgart area (where he served as Deputy Commander and Logistics Management Officer for the Defense Fuel Region, Europe). He retired as a lieutenant commander in 1988, but didn't stop serving — just traded his uniform for a suit and swapped the Navy for the Army.

As a civilian, he served in a variety of logistical and supply management positions in Stuttgart, Nürnberg and Würzburg before being named Director of Logistics for the 6th Area Support Group (now USAG Stuttgart) in 2000.

"Right from the onset he introduced a team spirit to the organization which is second to none," Juergens said. "He changed paradigms, encouraged new ideas and instituted a drive to excel."



Don't Miss the Marathon!  
Patch Barracks (Husky Field)  
Sept. 8 & 9



A great Stuttgart tradition!  
For details e-mail [castroj@eucom.mil](mailto:castroj@eucom.mil)



Be a part of  
something amazing!



Supporting servicemembers  
Enhancing communities  
Making memories!

Learn more about how you can  
be a part of this great organization:

Stacie Mathis  
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CIV 0711-729-2518  
[stacie.mathis@us.army.mil](mailto:stacie.mathis@us.army.mil)

CSM Mark Q. Barbary  
DSN 421-1320  
CIV 0711-729-1320  
[mark.barbary@us.army.mil](mailto:mark.barbary@us.army.mil)



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CIV 0711-680-7176





Hugh C. McBride

**Tony Avella, a running back for the Stuttgart Scorpions, looks to pound through the Dresden defense on his way to the end zone. Avella scored four touchdowns to lead the team to a 48-18 win over Dresden July 7 in Degerloch's Waldau Stadium. The Scorpions moved up to first place in league standings with the win.**

## Stuttgart Scorpions Football

# Team showcases passion for 'other' football

Story by Brandon Beach

**I**t takes more than just shin guards and long socks to survive in the German Football League.

Not to be confused with the Bundesliga where teams dribble around a 'soccer' ball for 90 minutes, the GFL plays a brand of football most Americans associate with over-sized helmets and shoulder pads.

To commemorate over 20 years of hard-hitting football right here in Stuttgart, the Scorpions held American Day July 7 in Degerloch's Gazi Stadium.

Some 1,000 fans cheered their hometown team to a 48-18 win over the Dresden Monarchs in an inter-conference tussle where temperatures reached close to 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Tony Avella and Patrick Geiger combined for over 300 rushing yards and found the end zone seven times to lead the Scorpion offense.

"It was real hot out there," said defensive back Jeff Carpenter, director of the Patch Youth Services' middle school program. "We wanted to pound their defense, keep the ball on the ground and wear down their big men."

Following back-to-back wins on the road earlier this month against Marburg and Munich, the Scorpions improved their record to 5-1-1 and moved up to first place in league standings.

"It was great to be back at home

again," said corner back Ahmad Spidle, child and youth program assistant at the Patch School Age Services. "My kids are in the stands. Some kids from SAS are here. It's real special."

One of those kids from SAS in the crowd was Jasmine Williams, a 10-year old at Patch Elementary School, who confessed that she didn't spend many of her Sunday afternoons watching football.

"I didn't know what was going on," she said. "I liked when the cheerleaders did their thing though."

### How to get there

The Scorpions' next two home games are Aug. 12, 6 p.m. against the Darmstadt Diamonds followed by a match against second-place Marburg Mercenaries on Aug. 26, 6 p.m.

With the GFL playoffs right around the corner, the Scorpions look to make a strong run at this year's German Bowl XXVIII Oct. 7 in Braunschweig.

To get to the stadium, take the U7 train to the Waldau stop or drive in direction toward the television tower, a visible Stuttgart landmark. Tickets cost 12 euro.

For more about the Scorpions visit [www.stuttgart-scorpions.de](http://www.stuttgart-scorpions.de).



Brandon Beach

**[Above] The Scorpion cheerleaders rouse the crowd. [Below] Defensive back Jeff Carpenter is one of five members of the Stuttgart military community on the Scorpions roster.**



Brandon Beach



Hugh C. McBride

**A Dresden receiver attempts an acrobatic over-the-shoulder grab near the Scorpions 25-yard line during the second half of the July 7 contest.**



# Lions & tigers & bears? Oh, yes!

## Wilhelma Zoo brings world's wonders to Stuttgart

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

If you haven't been to the Wilhelma Zoo, you have yet to experience one of Stuttgart's true treasures.

Spread across 10 lush acres in Stuttgart's Bad Cannstatt area, the zoo is an idyllic oasis – a virtual island of serenity amid the hustle and bustle of the big city. In addition to offering a literal breath of fresh air (scented, perhaps, by one of the more fragrant of the zoo's 5,000 plant species), the facility also affords visitors the opportunity to observe – and occasionally interact with – what appears to be an ark's-worth of critters ranging from the infinitesimal to the enormous.

The statistics border on the astounding – more than 10,000 animals and the aforementioned 5,000 species of plant life, making it Germany's second-largest zoo and Europe's only combination botanical/zoological garden – but it is the manner in which this collection of the world's wonders is displayed that makes this destination a must-see for visitors to Stuttgart.

The zoo's collections are housed in and around 19th-century buildings that, according to the facility's Web site, were constructed at the behest of King Wilhelm I of Württemberg (who desired "a summer house with living quarters and decorative glasshouses in Moorish style"). The area's cultivation of exotic plant life also got its start in King Wilhelm's time, though the addition of the animals did not occur until after World War II.

Though relative newcomers (at least when compared with their botanical neighbors), the animals have clearly made themselves at home in the zoo.

From the flock of flamingos (yes, they're pink – and yes, from time to time they really do stand on one leg) gathered on a small island just inside the main gate to the litter of pigs lazing in a cool mud bog to the herds of goats and ponys eagerly gathered at the gate of the petting zoo in the far reaches of the park, the animals appear to be alternately oblivious to and oh-so-aware of the prying eyes of their human visitors.

As far as those paying guests go, the zoo's attractions range from the traditionally enticing (the majesty of the giraffe yard, the ethereal grace of the aquarium, the entertaining playfulness of the monkey house) to what some visitors would regard as head-scratching – or skin-crawling (the reptile house and the insectarium come to mind here).

When not ogling the animals, visitors can enjoy refreshments at two cafes and a variety of kiosks; purchase souvenirs from a number of stands throughout the park; or just enjoy a picnic (or nap) in one of the many tree-lined lawns.

Though the zoo's Web site ([www.wilhelma.de](http://www.wilhelma.de)) features an extensive English-language section, signage in the zoo itself is German-only. This may pose a slight problem for the monolingual out-of-towner who can't bear to pass an information plaque, but rest assured that the sights, sounds – and yes, even smells – of this urban treasure provide more than ample enlightenment for your euros.

### WILHELMA ZOO: JUST THE FACTS

**Location** – The Wilhelma Zoo is located on Neckartalstrasse in the Bad Cannstatt area of Stuttgart.

**Getting there** – The zoo is accessible via a variety of means:

- By train, take the U-14 to Wilhelma Station or the U-13 to Rosensteinbrücke Station.

- By bus, take routes 52, 55 or 56 to the Rosenteinbrücke stop.

- By car from Patch, Panzer or Kelley, take the A831 to the B14, then follow the Wilhelma signs (look for the elephant silhouette). From RB, take the B14.

- Specific directions from out of town (or from various starting points within Stuttgart) are available at [www.wilhelma.de](http://www.wilhelma.de).

**Parking** – A parking garage is located about 100 meters from the entrance to the zoo. Parking fees are 2 euro for up to two hours, 3 euro for two to four hours, and 4 euro for more than four hours.

**Entrance fees** – As of July 24, ticket prices are as follows:

- Adults, 10.80 euros

- Children ages 6 to 17, 5.40 euros

- Family Package #1 (one parent and one child), 16.20 euros

- Family Package #2 (two parents and all children), 27 euros

- Ticket prices are reduced after 4 p.m. and in the winter (November through February).

**Contact** – Plan ahead before you visit via the following means:

- Phone – 0711-540-20

- Fax – 0711-540-20

- E-mail – [info@wilhelma.de](mailto:info@wilhelma.de)

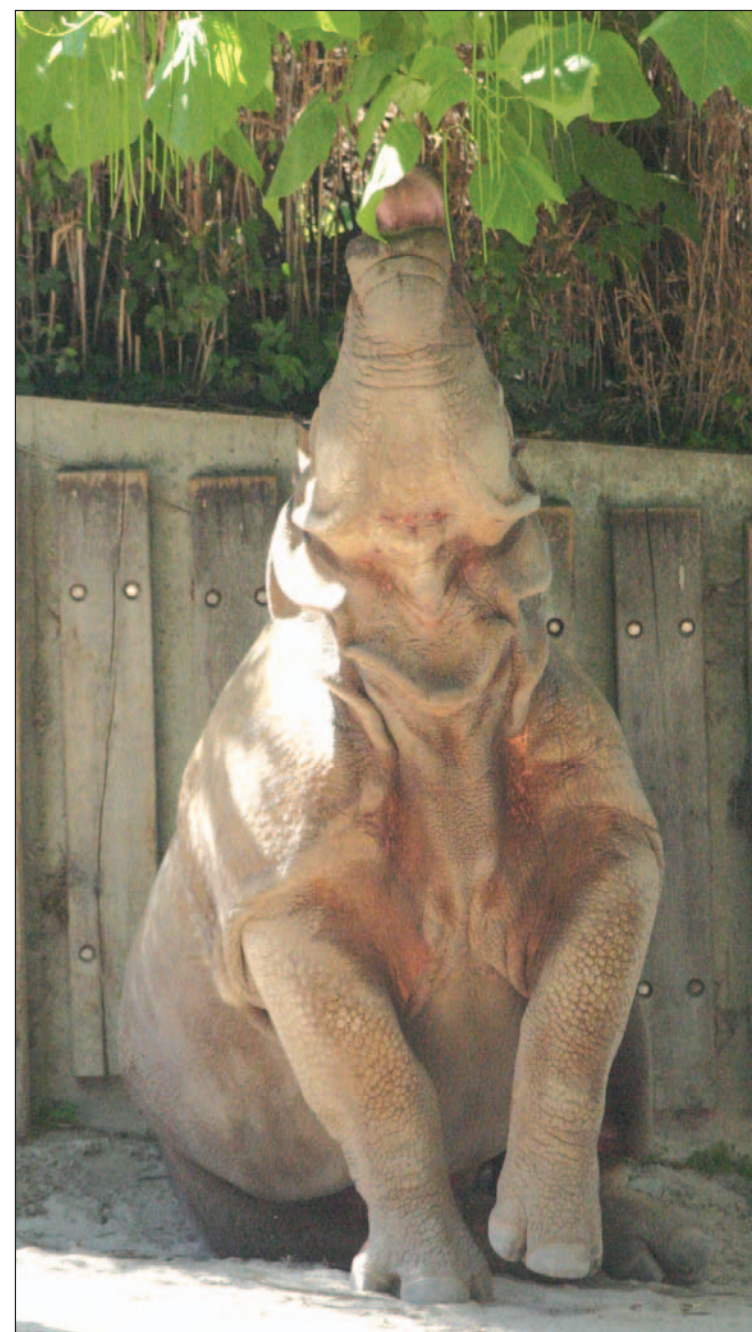
- Web site – [www.wilhelma.de](http://www.wilhelma.de) (English section available)



One of the four elephants who make their home at Stuttgart's Wilhelma Zoo appears to be attempting to stifle a yawn during a steamy summer afternoon.



A dromedary angles for an up-close look at a visitor's camera July 18 at Stuttgart's Wilhelma Zoo.



Lunch! One of the zoo's two rhinoceroses stretches for a mid-afternoon snack.



Sculptures throughout the Wilhelma Zoo seem to serve as a reminder to zoo patrons that though the animals may appear cuddly, nature is not always a friendly place.



A sea lion (left) enjoys a sun-kissed snooze on a hot July afternoon. Though the heat caused many animals to conserve their energy, life seemed to be as playful as ever in the primate house (right).







Nothing rings out fest season more than a swing through the air. Kids and adults alike enjoy some vertical fun at the annual Cannstatter-Wasen Volksfest.

## Summer Festival Guide

# Fun facts to enjoy Stuttgart's colorful fest season

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

Every year, August spells festival season in Stuttgart. From onions to wine to "hangmen," the city will find any excuse to cut loose and party.

The following is a small guide to the most well-known and colorful festivals this month.

### Esslinger Zwiebelfest July 28 to Aug. 7

The historic city of Esslingen celebrates the 20th-edition of its popular *Zwiebelfest* (Onion Festival) through Aug. 7.

Enjoy a stroll through this Medieval landmark featuring live music and outdoor foods booths serving local specialties such as *Zwiebelkuchen* (onion cake).

The festival grounds are located at the city *Marktplatz*. The simplest way of getting to and from the fest is via public transportation. City train S1 stops at *Esslingen Bahnhof*. From there, it's a short walk.

The fest is open daily 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. For more information visit [www.esslinger-zwiebelfest.de](http://www.esslinger-zwiebelfest.de).

### Henkersfest Aug. 3 to 6

Oddly enough, this festival gets its name after the Swabian hangmen of the Middle Ages.

Though their won't be any public hangings this year, the festival does feature live music from local acts such as Eric Gauthier (rock) and Hannes Orange (pop) and numerous food booths ranging from Italian to Asian.

The festival grounds are located at Stuttgart's *Wilhelmsplatz*. City trains U1 and U14 both stop at *Oesterreichischerplatz*. Bus 44 and 92 will also deliver you to the same location. From there, it's just across the street.

For more information visit [www.henkersfest.de](http://www.henkersfest.de).

### Stuttgarter Sommerfest Aug. 10 to 13

This open air festival got its start after the city hosted the World Cycling Championships in 1991.

Today, the festival has little to do with bikes, unless you pedal there, and more to do with enjoying live music, food and drink.

The festival takes place in downtown Stuttgart, near *Schlossplatz* and *Theatersee*.

To get there, take city trains S1, S2 or S3 to the *Schlossplatz* stop. U-Bahn trains 5, 6, and 7 all stop at *Charlottenplatz* or *Staatsgalerie*.

### Stuttgarter Weindorf Aug. 30 to Sept. 10

The Wine Village, which cel-

brates the fruits of Baden-Württemberg's 2000-year old wine-making tradition, will be a chance to sample a glass of sparkling Riesling or cozy up to a plate of *Käsespätzle* (Swabian cheese noodles).

The heart of the festival lies in the cobblestoned *Schillerplatz*, under the gaze of the prominent *Stiftskirche* (the city's landmark church).

To get there, take city trains S1, S2 or S3 to the *Stadtmitte* stop, which is a short walk to the village grounds. U5, U6 or U7 all stop at *Schlossplatz* or *Charlottenplatz*, which is also a short walk.

### Flammende Sternefest Aug. 25 to 27

The "Glittering Stars" festival in Ostfildern means fireworks. Every evening starting just after dark, the skies will light up with pyrotechnic pops and cracks.

During the day, enjoy live music and numerous food booths that dot the grounds.

The festival is located at *Scharnhauser Park* in Ostfildern. City trains U7 and U8 stop at *Kreuzbrunnen*, the entrance to the fest grounds.

By car, take *Autobahn 8* to the Ostfildern-Ruit exit.

For more information visit [www.flammende-sterne.de/ostfildern](http://www.flammende-sterne.de/ostfildern).



[Above] A trumpet player at the Stuttgarter Volksfest keeps a local beer tent in a festive mood. [Below] Searching for Christmas gifts a bit early? Festivals are a great chance to bargain hunt.





Stuttgart Child & Youth Services Sports & Fitness

# Soccer Clinics

Ages 6-9

Aug. 22 to 24

5 to 7 p.m.

Patch Barracks  
(Husky Field)

Ages 10-15

Aug. 26 & 27

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Patch Barracks  
(Bowman Field)

Fee: \$20 per child

Must be registered with CYS

Must have physical exam valid through Aug. 27



For more information or to register:  
DSN 430-7483 / CIV 0711-680-7483



## Summer Safety: Beat the Heat

# Plan ahead to stay safe in extreme heat

### Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

**H**eat-related deaths and illness are preventable yet annually many people succumb to extreme heat. From 1979 to 1999, excessive heat exposure caused 8,015 deaths in the United States.

People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to properly cool themselves. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain or other vital organs.

Temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region and last for several weeks are defined as extreme heat.

To protect your health when temperatures are extremely high, remember to keep cool and use common sense. The following tips are important:

#### • Drink Plenty of Fluids

During hot weather you will need to increase fluid intake, regardless of your activity level. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink. During heavy exercise in a hot environment, drink two to four glasses (16 to 32 ounces) of cool fluids each hour.

Warning: If your doctor generally limits the amount of fluid you drink or has you on water pills, ask how much you should drink while the weather is hot.

Don't drink liquids that contain alcohol, or large amounts of sugar – these actually cause you to lose more body fluid.

#### • Replace salt and minerals

Heavy sweating removes salt and minerals from the body. These are necessary for your body and must be replaced.

If you must exercise, drink two to four glasses of cool, non-alcoholic fluids each hour. A sports beverage can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat. However, if you are on a low-salt diet, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage or taking salt tablets.

#### • Wear appropriate clothing and sunscreen

Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool itself and causes a loss of body fluids. It also causes pain and damages the skin.

If you must go outdoors, protect yourself from the sun by wearing a wide-brimmed hat along with sunglasses, and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 15 or higher 30 minutes prior to going out. Continue to reapply it according to the package directions.

#### • Monitor those at high risk

Although any one at any time can suffer from heat-related illness, some people are at greater risk than others.

• Infants and children up to four years of age are sensitive to the effects of high temperatures and rely on others to regulate their environments and provide adequate liquids.

• People 65 years of age or older may not compensate for heat stress efficiently and are less likely to sense and respond to change in temperature.

• People who are overweight may be prone to heat sickness because of their tendency to retain more body heat.

• People who overexert during work or



www.photos.com

**Staying hydrated is part – but just part – of a comprehensive plan to stay safe and healthy in the face of extreme heat.**

exercise may become dehydrated and susceptible to heat sickness.

• People who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications, such as for depression, insomnia, or poor circulation, may be affected by extreme heat.

Visit adults at risk at least twice a day and closely watch them for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

For more information call the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Safety Office at 421-2752/civ. 0711-729-2752.

**MANDATORY PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT & REQUIREMENTS**

**DODI 6055.4- DoD Traffic Safety Program & AR 385-55**



**FATALITIES**

FY03	FY04	FY05
19	22	40

Either the Jacket & or belt worn as pictured meets the requirements of AR 385-55. The belt pictured meets minimum visibility requirements.



**Eye Protection.**  
Face shield or Impact-shatter resistant goggles or wrap-around glasses that meet ANSI Z87.1

**Helmets.**  
certified by the manufacturer to meet or exceed DOT standards and must be properly fastened under the chin. A full face helmet with proper shield provides best protection

**Garment Visibility.**  
A brightly colored outer upper garment during the day and a reflective upper garment during the night.

**Clothing.**  
Long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, and full-fingered gloves or mittens designed for use on a motorcycle.

**Sturdy Foot Wear.**  
Lether boots or over-the ankle shoes.



## The George C. Marshall Center

# Alumni support program plays key role in effort to achieve 'peace through understanding'

Story & photo by Sue Ferrare

The George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies is best known for educating hundreds of new students from throughout Europe and Eurasia each year, as well as bringing together thousands more security experts via conferences and other outreach events. Less well known are the Center's efforts to build and maintain a network of personal relationships among former students, but that is one of the best ways to make security cooperation a reality, said outgoing Graduate Support Program Chief Alan Gorowitz.

The mission of the Garmisch-based Marshall Center is to create a more stable security environment among the nations of North America, Europe, and Eurasia. The Marshall Center staff feels that its graduates are the key to enhancing enduring partnerships between these nations. That's why they developed a Graduate Support Program to be the means through which they continue dialogue and information exchange with the graduates, as well as offering them continuing professional development opportunities.

One way the Marshall Center provides professional development is by offering a yearly Alumni Leadership Seminar. This year it was held the week of July 18 to 21.

"The purpose of this seminar is to bring back those who have been serving as partners for the Marshall Center in the region over the last year and educate them on a topic that is of importance with the hope they will go back to their own countries and perhaps do something on this topic," Gorowitz explained.

### Leaders among alumni

"This [conference] particularly targeted what the graduate support office believes are the leaders in the alumni out there," said Rick Steinke, incoming Graduate Support Program chief. "There were 39 countries that were represented at this conference. It's certainly a great way to keep in touch with alumni who are out there and furthering the cooperation that the center seeks with all those alumni that are in different venues and facing different challenges on a daily basis. We have a very good cross section of individuals who are facing security and security cooperation issues every day."

Gorowitz explained that getting together people who work different jobs in different countries is a main part of the Marshall Center resident experience, and a large part of what they are trying to achieve through the Graduate Support Program.

"Part of what makes this experience so enriching and worthwhile for the alumni and students that come here is that they learn from each other," Steinke said. "That's the main thing. Certainly they do learn from the professors who are here, there's no doubt about that, but I would guess that at least half the learning is from each other."

Dr. John P. Rose, director of the Marshall Center, made sure to point that fact out, when he addressed attendees at the beginning of the recent Alumni Conference.

"We want to understand the better insights and perspectives that come from you as participants because we have found out that you do have different views on this global war on terrorism and what needs to be done about that," he said. "So the whole purpose is to try to share those understandings so that we, collectively, can better position ourselves, understand the challenges that we have and collectively address those issues."

### Finding solutions together

Rose went on to summarize two key points that have to do with today's security environment.

"No one nation is going to be able to solve this problem [terrorism] alone, and only when there is a community of nations – all of us working together – to try to identify information, react to information, and respond, are we going to be able to truly address and come to grips with these issues," he said. "So each and every one of you, in your country, has a role in this battle that we are waging at this point in time."

"The second issue is that there is no one single solution



Dr. John P. Rose, director of Garmisch's George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, addresses an alumni group during the center's annual Alumni Leadership Seminar. The yearly gathering allows graduates to interact both with fellow alumni and with Marshall Center personnel.

to this problem. Only when we combine the military, the economic, the informational, the financial, the diplomatic, the cultural, will we better understand how to deal with this issue. That's the value of our collectively working together as a community of nations."

An opportunity to come back to the Marshall Center is only one of three ways Gorowitz said the Graduate Support Program works to keep the alumni in contact with the Marshall Center.

"We have extensive programming in their region, often in partnership with them," he said. "Most of the time it's short, one-day, security cooperation roundtables. Usually one Marshall Center professor will go there (with) somebody from their government – usually an alumnus – to share insights. I've heard from one person here that a recent program on terrorism was the first time that experts dealing with terrorism from more than one ministry actually discussed terrorism issues in an interagency or inter-ministerial atmosphere. I've heard from somebody else that Marshall Center alumni programs are the only inter-ministerial discussions on some of these topics below the level of a national security council."

### Sharing knowledge online

The last part of the graduate support is the networking that they do, mostly through internet-based communications, explained Gorowitz. One of the ways they communicate is through the Marshall Center Knowledge Portal.

Graduates have access to Research Library databases containing thousands of periodical and scholarly journal articles on a variety of security issues through the password-protected KP.

The KP also publishes graduate essays and papers and hosts discussion forums about the key security challenges of the day. The Graduate Support Program also maintains a searchable directory of graduates as a networking tool for security professionals.

"We [also] send out a monthly newsletter in English and in Russian, and we provide in that newsletter, not just opportunities but news about promotions, new assignments, so people can know where their friends are," added Gorowitz. "Chris O'Conner (who works in the graduate support office) told me about an e-mail he got about a Ukrainian who had

*When you have two people in Lebanon, one from Armenia and one from Romania who are trading stories with each other right now in the system because you connected them six months ago – that's what makes getting up in the morning and coming and doing this job all worth it*

Alan Gorowitz

George C. Marshall Center Graduate Support Program

been promoted. We put it in the newsletter and within 48 hours we had an e-mail back from the Ukrainian, telling us that 20 of his fellow classmates had all e-mailed him to wish him congratulations on that promotion."

The graduate support office provides alumni with many avenues to get in touch with each other, but they still have many opportunities to personally provide the networking information the graduates need.

"I get phone calls all the time from somebody who will say, 'I'm working on this specific defense reform issue, I need some advice,'" he said. "The fact of the matter is if I am a person from Romania who is having a defense reform issue, I would rather have advice from somebody from Georgia or Poland who has the same kind of problems that I did, than hear from an American who isn't facing the same challenges. A lot of this individual networking is absolutely essential to them."

Gorowitz explained that one of the best things about working with the alumni is when he is able to connect them to each other.

"When you have two people in Lebanon, one from Armenia and one from Romania who are trading stories with each other right now in the system because you connected them six months ago – that's what makes getting up in the morning and coming and doing this job all worth it."





Stuttgart's Eric Latson returns a serve from his Ramstein opponent Walt Washington during the opening day of the U.S. Forces Tennis Championship at the Patrick Henry Courts in Heidelberg. Latson went on to win the men's open singles championship. (Photo by Gene Knudsen)

## U.S. Forces Tennis Championship

### *Latson swings his way to men's open singles title*

By Brandon Beach

Despite temperatures of nearly 100 degrees Fahrenheit, Staff Sgt. Eric Latson kept his racquet sizzling on the tennis court.

"It was like playing tennis in the desert," he said. "It was scorching the entire weekend."

A Soldier with the 1/10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Latson blanked Orlando Gonzales of Ramstein in straight sets 6:1, 7:5 to win this year's U.S. Forces Tennis Championship July 21 to 23 at the Patrick Henry Village Tennis Center in Heidelberg.

"I've been playing consistent, having fun and loving the courts," said Latson on the final day.

Having fun meant beating his opponents, something he didn't do last year when he crashed out of the tournament with a first round loss.

This year, he had something to prove.

In the three matches leading up to the finals, he dropped only one set to Schwetzingen's David Ward in the third round.

On centre court, he outpaced Gonzales from the baseline ripping forehands into corners and hustling down drop shots at the net.

The first set lasted just under 25 minutes. The second set played out more like a chess match, with Gonzales jumping out to a 3:0 lead.

Consistent play meant getting his head back into the game, and Latson was quick to neutralize Gonzales' big-kicking serves with solid returns.

*I've been playing consistent, having fun and loving the courts.*

**Staff Sgt. Eric Latson**  
1/10th Special Forces Group  
(Airborne)

Latson marched on to take the next five games. With just over one hour and 15 minutes on the court, Latson closed out the match to win the men's open singles championship.

"I showed this year that I'm a much better player," he said. "I'm able to chase down those game winning shots."

#### **Stuttgart team takes third**

Four players from the Stuttgart military community traveled to Heidelberg to test their game against Europe's best.

In the men's doubles semi-finals match on Sunday morning, Latson and Chief Master Sgt. Gregory Outlaw of EUCOM squared off against the team of Maurice Green and David Ward.

For Green, a staff sergeant with Mannheim's Bravo Company 44th Signal Battalion, the tournament was a farewell lap around the court with

old rivals. He will begin a new assignment at Fort Hood, Texas, on Aug. 4.

"My battalion commander deferred my travel back to the States just so I could play," he said. "This tournament has always been special to me."

With pinpoint volleys from the net, Green made sure he would take home a medal, as he and his partner edged out the Stuttgart duo 7:6, 7:6.

"It was a real heartbreaker," said Outlaw. "It doesn't get any closer than that."

Despite the loss, Outlaw didn't have time to wind down as he had a scheduled match against Heidelberg's Rik Tuey for the third place title in the Senior's category.

From the onset, Tuey seemed to frustrate Outlaw with slices and drop shots that kept the big man hustling down balls all over the court.

"He's the fastest 250-pounder on the tennis court," observed Patch Fitness Center Manager Ricky Payton from the sidelines. "He'll get back into this one."

Outlaw lost the first set 6:1 but then rebounded in the second with a 7:5 turnaround.

"I had to go down swinging," he said. "That 6:1 didn't set well with me."

The match played out for two hours and 40 minutes, meaning that Outlaw, who had played an earlier doubles match, had slugged forehands and backhands for nearly five hours.

Five sweat-soaked shirts and numerous grunts later, Outlaw closed out the match with a 6:2 third set victory.

The result helped push Stuttgart higher in the team standings. Twelve military communities fielded players during the three-day tournament, the furthest coming from RAF Mildenhall in England.

In the end, Heidelberg took top honors with 150 points. Ramstein placed second with 132 points, and Stuttgart took third with 110 points.

#### **Tennis anyone?**

Not only a player on the Stuttgart tennis team, Payton spends much of his time on the court as a coach.

Earlier this month, Payton hosted two tennis clinics in Stuttgart to help area youth and adults hone their racquet skills. Some 120 people showed up to play.

For Payton, the numbers could not be more positive as it shows a gradual sway from what he calls "the big 3," meaning basketball, softball and football.

"We're seeing the courts being used a lot more in Stuttgart," said Payton. "I think it's great, and it means we're developing a more all-around fitness program in our community."

*For details on sports opportunities in Stuttgart call 430-4512/civ. 0711-680-4512.*

*For more info about the Heidelberg Tennis Center and upcoming tournaments call 388-9037/civ. 06221-338-9037. The center is open daily 9 a.m. to dark.*



# 2006 USO Golf Tournament

## Germans, Americans tee it up to support service members, families

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

Area golfers smacked drives and sunk putts July 15 in support of the Stuttgart USO. During the 15th annual Golf Classic held at the Stuttgart Golf Club in Kornwestheim, 95 German and American participants enjoyed blue skies and a lot of birdies.

Every year, the tournament serves as a key fundraising event for the USO with proceeds going directly into community activities.

"Basically, money comes in and money goes out," said Susie Holmes-Motterle, USO operations coordinator and tournament organizer. "We are here for Soldiers, the community and families."

The tournament format was "stableford," a modified stroke play where players earn points for bogeys, pars and birdies.

The shotgun start began promptly at 9 a.m. Several holes later, Col. Kathy Knapp of EUCOM, reached the 8th-hole green with a chip shot blast out of the right-side bunker.

As a military officer of 22 years and an avid golfer, Knapp said she was happy to support the tournament for the USO.

"Overseas it's [USO] absolutely critical," said Knapp. "There are a lot of people who just wouldn't get out on their own without the USO."

On the adjacent par-5 9th tee block, James Moss, an Army veteran who works at the Ludwigsburg Health Clinic, teed up his ball and echoed similar thoughts as Knapp.

"I feel honored every year to play in this tournament," he said. "They [USO] do so much for families and the troops downrange."

### Prizes up for grabs

Over \$5,000 in prizes was up for grabs made possible by the generous donations of many local organizations.

Among the sponsors was Auto Exchange in Heidelberg. They parked a brand new 2006 Polaris 4-wheeler ATV in front of the Pro Shop. The keys would be handed over to anyone who could land a hole-in-one on the 154-yard hole three. Despite the many attempts on the day, the 4-wheeler went unclaimed.

Porsche donated tickets to its factory tour; Schindler offered glassware; and Bosch handed out electronic goodies.

Rounding out the list was the Stuttgarter Hofbräu, who donated bottles of cold beer for 19th-hole storytelling in the club house.

### Tournament winners

Gary Knapp netted a +30 during his march around the links to take home top tournament honors.

John Choike won the closest-to-the-pin award when he landed his ball six feet from the pin on the 125-yard 14th. Jeffrey Bartel and Kat O'Konskli both took John Daly-sized cracks at the ball to take home longest drive honors.

"The tournament far exceeded our expectations this year," said Jeff Hiatt, director of the USO. "It couldn't have been possible without our great volunteer support."

## Upcoming Tournaments at the Stuttgart Golf Club

### Stuttgart Club Championship – Aug. 12 & 13

- Thirty-six holes of play over two days.
- \$40 for club members and \$60 for non-members.
- Call 07141-879-151 or e-mail gary.groff1@us.army.mil

### Red Cross Labor Day Classic – Sept. 4

- Four-person scramble with more than \$1,000 in prizes.
- \$40 for club members and \$55 for non-members.
- Call 431-2818/civ 07031-15-2818.

### USAG Stuttgart Commander's Tournament – Sept. 15

- Four-person scramble with 8:30 a.m. shotgun start
- \$40 per player
- Call 07141-879-151 or e-mail gary.groff1@us.army.mil

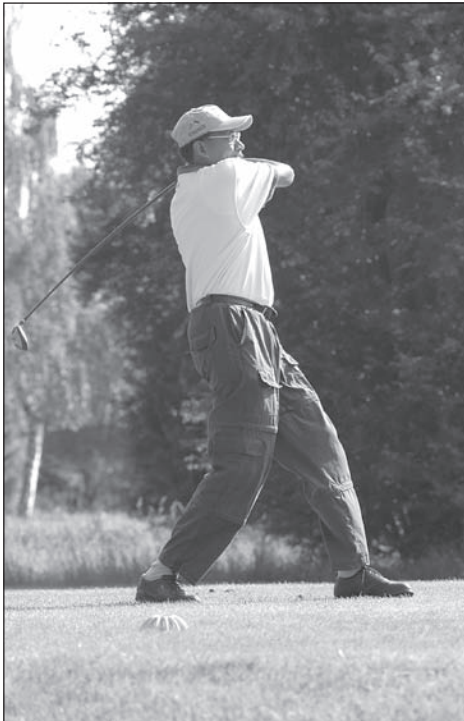


photo courtesy of Stuttgart USO

[Left Top] James Moss takes a monster-sized crack at the ball on the par-5 9th tee block. Some 95 German and American golfers took part in the annual tournament to raise money for the USO. [Left Bottom] Gary Knapp took home top honors, a goodie bag of prizes and a photo with a Galaxy Football cheerleader.

[Right] Pete Ryan, a field engineer at DISA Europe, sinks a birdie putt from the fringe on the par-5 17th.

## ON THE GO WITH USO

For more than 50 years, the USO has been providing a wealth of leisure services for U.S. service members and their families around the world.

From learning about Stuttgart to exploring Europe, the local USO is the place to go. The following are just a few of the many travel opportunities in store.

### Eagles Nest Tour

Aug. 6

This tour of Hitler's famous mountaintop getaway also includes a visit through the world-famous salt mines in Berchtesgaden.

Cost is \$130 for adults and \$115 for children. Bus departs from both Robinson Barracks and Patch Barracks.

### Strasbourg, France

Aug. 9

Take an unforgettable cruise along the multitude of canals in this historic and majestic city.

Cost is \$69 for adults and \$64 for children.

Bus departs from both Patch Barracks and Robinson Barracks.

### Swarovski/Innsbruck

Aug. 12

This tour includes a visit to the Swarovski Crystal Museum as well as walk through the Alpine city of Innsbruck in Austria.

Cost is \$95 for adults and \$90 for children. Bus departs from Patch Barracks and Robinson Barracks.

### Munich

Aug. 12

Take a historical walk through Munich in this tour that highlights the military history of the Third Reich.

Cost is \$87 for adults and \$82 for children.

Bus departs from both Patch Barracks and Robinson Barracks.

For more information about these and other USO tours:

1. Visit the Stuttgart USO office on Patch Barracks (Washington Center, first floor)
2. Call the USO at 430-5559/civ 0711-680-5559
3. Visit [www.uso.org/stuttgart](http://www.uso.org/stuttgart).



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE

# THE NEXT SUPERSTAR



**AUGUST 5**

10 a.m. Husky Field & Patch Fitness Center

- \* Men's & Women's Categories
- \* Must compete in 5 out of 9 events
- \* Trophies to Top Men & Top Women
- \* T-shirts for all participants

**SUPERSTAR COMPETITION:**

softball throw	soccer kick	free throw
long jump	mile run	closest to the pin
football throw	bench press	100 meter dash

Registration open until August 1. For more info, call Patch Fitness Center DSN 430-7136 / Civ. 0711-680-7136

